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Marvel

8th Sept. 1995
No 206 90p

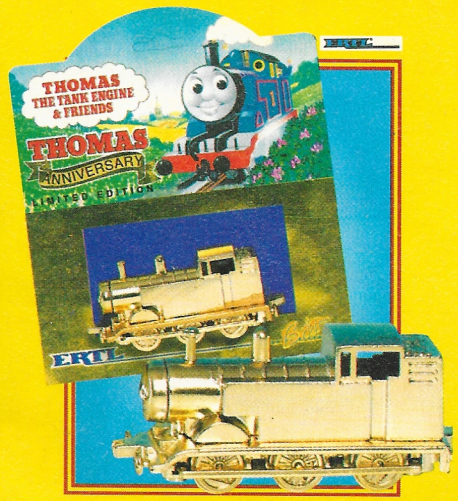
# THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS™

As seen on TV!

Based on the Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

HAROLD

## WIN




## A Golden Thomas!

9 770954 939077 36

**Stories! Engine wall tidier! Visit a railway!**

# ALL AB

## • Notice Board! •

*Peep! Peep!* It's time for more fun when you read this issue of Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends! There's lots to read and do and it all starts with our first story when Diesel has a surprise cargo, in Fishy Diesel! Then, it's your chance to win a pinball game, in the final part of our fantastic competition! Thomas helps out George the Steamroller, proving that rails are useful in our Read & Play story, George gets stuck! And in our follow-on activity why not have a go at making a Really Useful engine wall tidier! Finally in our last story, Weather worries cause problems for Gordon! How will Harold save him? Also, find out how you can visit Thomas for FREE in visit a railway. Plus, if you enter our great new competition, you could win a limited edition golden Thomas! Peep! Peep!

**A special prize to be won Page 9!**

**Free child pass to Didcot Railway Centre - Page 22!**

**THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS** is published fortnightly by **MARVEL COMICS LTD.** Chairman; Jim Galton, Managing Director; Richard Maskell. Editorial Director; Alan J.O'Keefe. Editorial Team; Jenny Wackett, Jason Quinn. Art Director; Helen Nally, Design; Liz Stott, Production Control. Julie Pickering, Mark Irvine, Andy Parslow. Office of Publication: 13-15 Arundel St, London WC2R 3DX. All THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS material copyright © William Heinemann Limited. All television and merchandising rights licensed by William Heinemann Limited to Britt Allcroft (THOMAS) Ltd., exclusively worldwide. **'THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS'** is a trademark of Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Limited. All rights reserved. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions in this publication with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in the UK. Distributed by Marketforce (UK) Ltd., 247 Tottenham Court Road, LONDON W1P OAU. Tel. 071 261 5555. ISSN 0954-9390.

ABC CONSUMER PRESS

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Pinball Competition TOKEN 2

# OARD!

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*Win a Golden Thomas!*

10. **Letters & drawings!**
*Has your letter won a star prize?*

12. **ABC mural**
*Finish your mural with the letter 'Z'!*

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*Get your scissors ready!*

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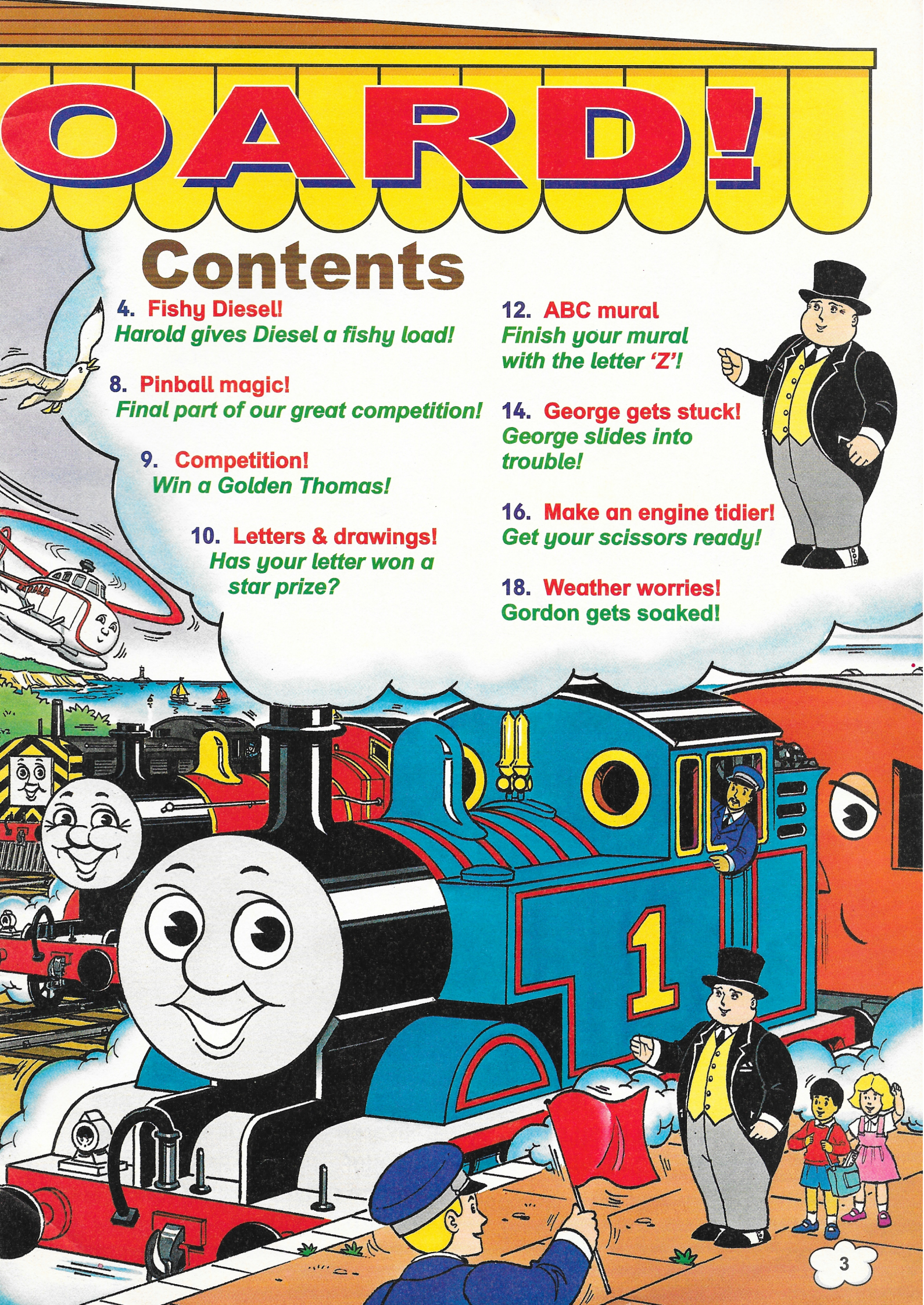
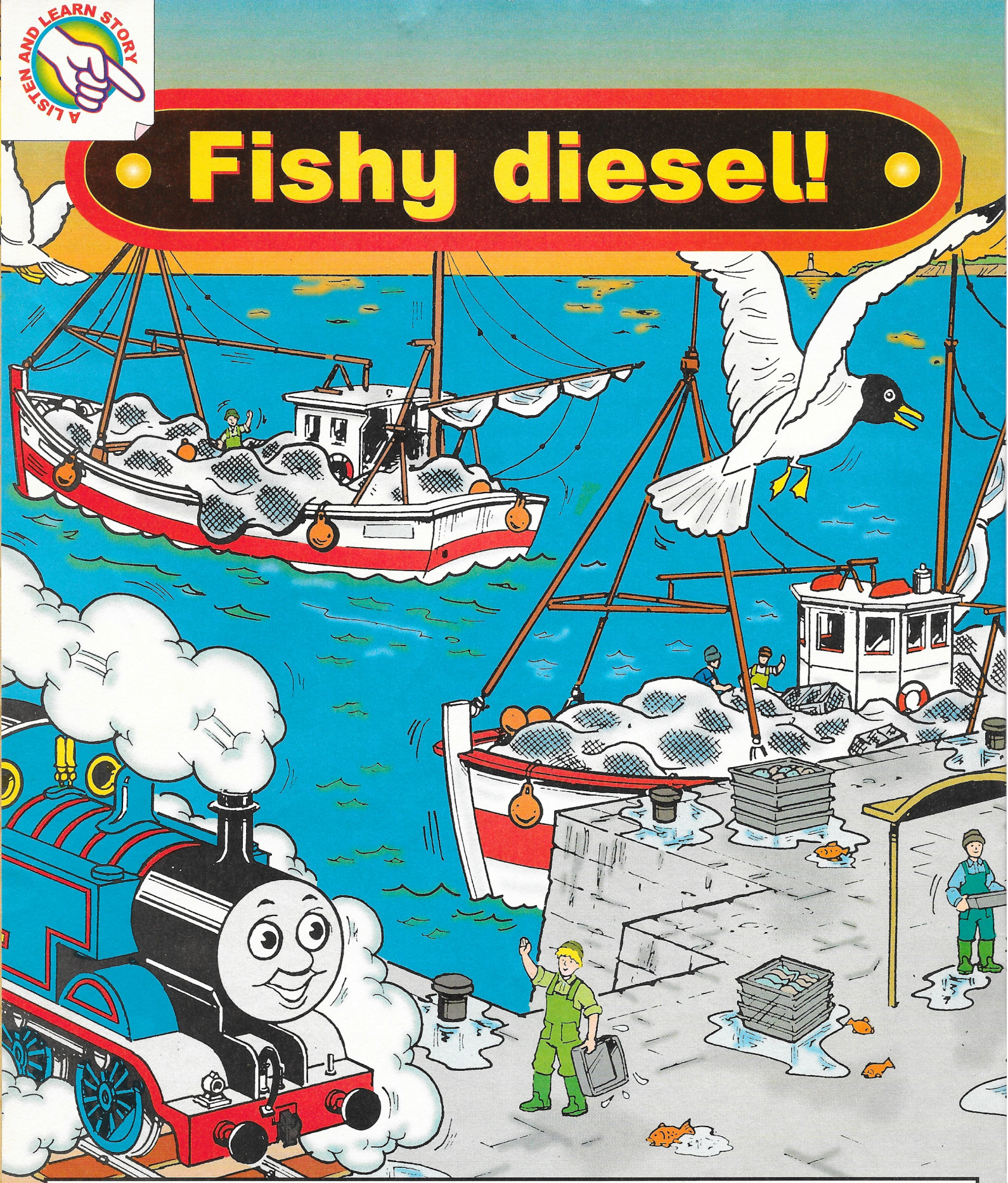


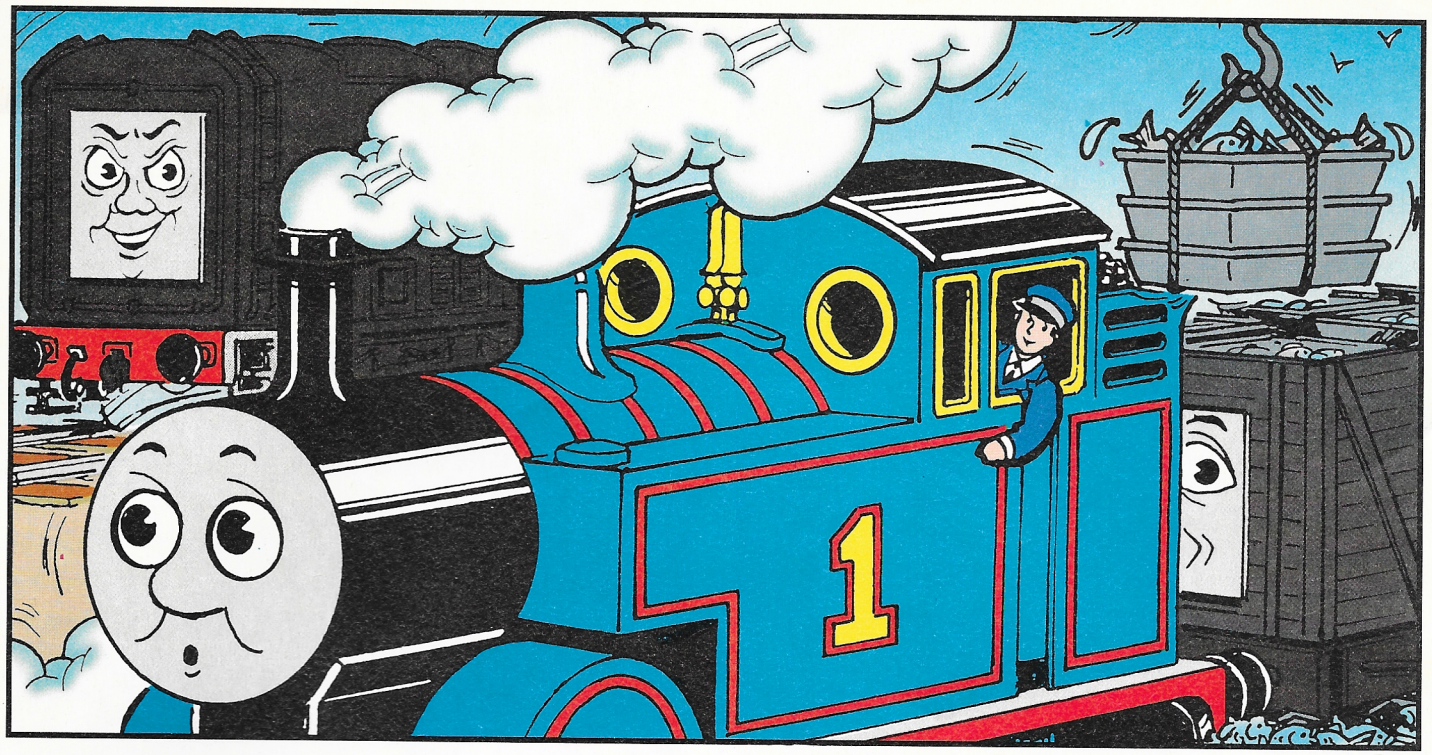
A LISTEN AND LEARN STORY

# Fishy diesel!



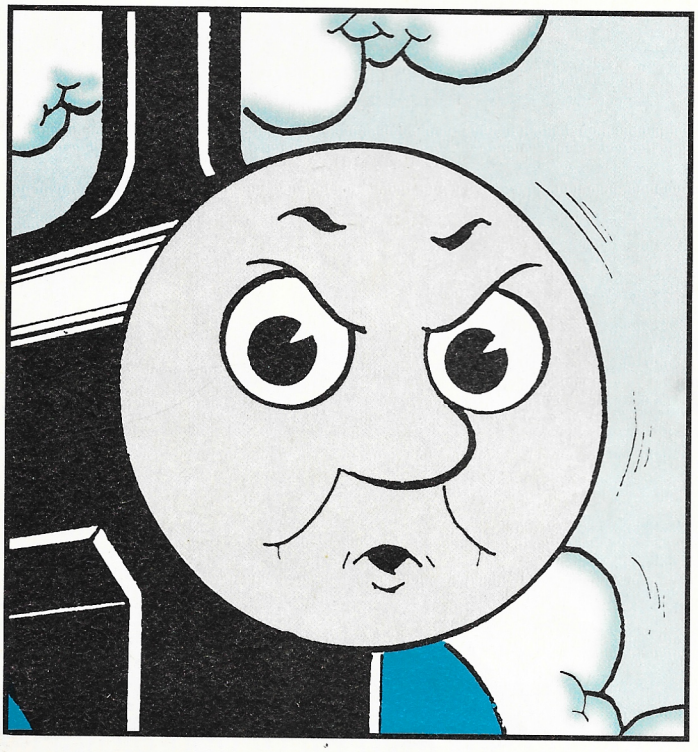
1. By the Big Harbour was a fish market. It was a very busy place. The fishing boats brought their catches every day, to be sold to restaurants, shops and hotels.

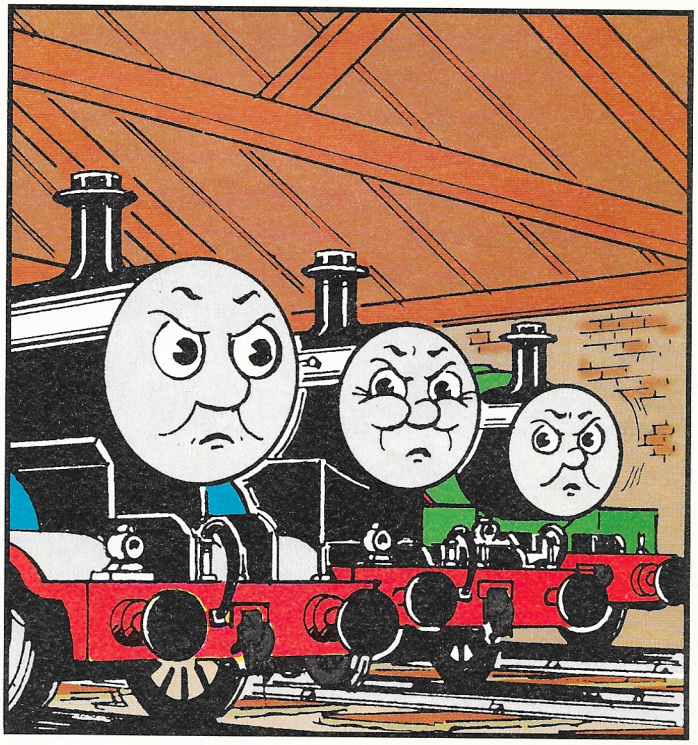
2. The Fat Controller's engines delivered the fish all over the Island of Sodor. Today, it was Thomas's turn. He arrived bright and early at the harbour station.




3. Thomas waited while boxes of fish were loaded onto his trucks. Nearby, Diesel was working in the harbour yard. "Phew! You smell like an old cod!" he told Thomas.

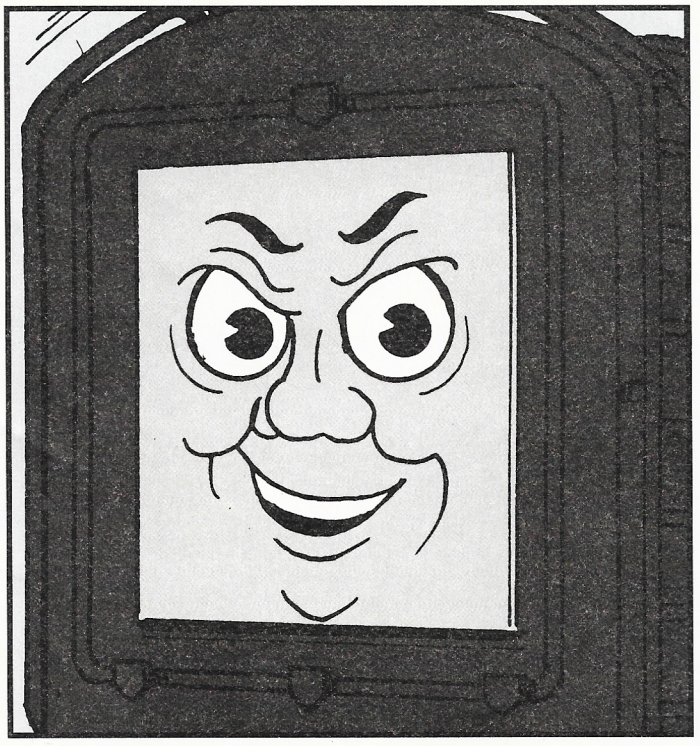
4. "You won't get me carrying fish!" added Diesel, in his oily voice. "It's not that bad," said Thomas. "The fish are packed in lots of ice to keep them fresh."



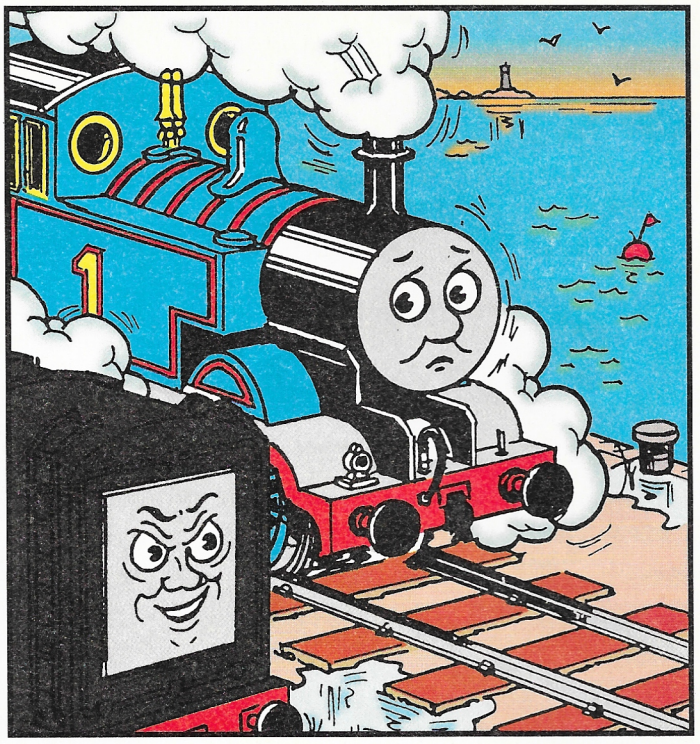


5. "Well, you don't smell very fresh to me, Thomas!" laughed Diesel unkindly as he raced off. "Cheek!" huffed Thomas. Soon he set off with his fish trucks.

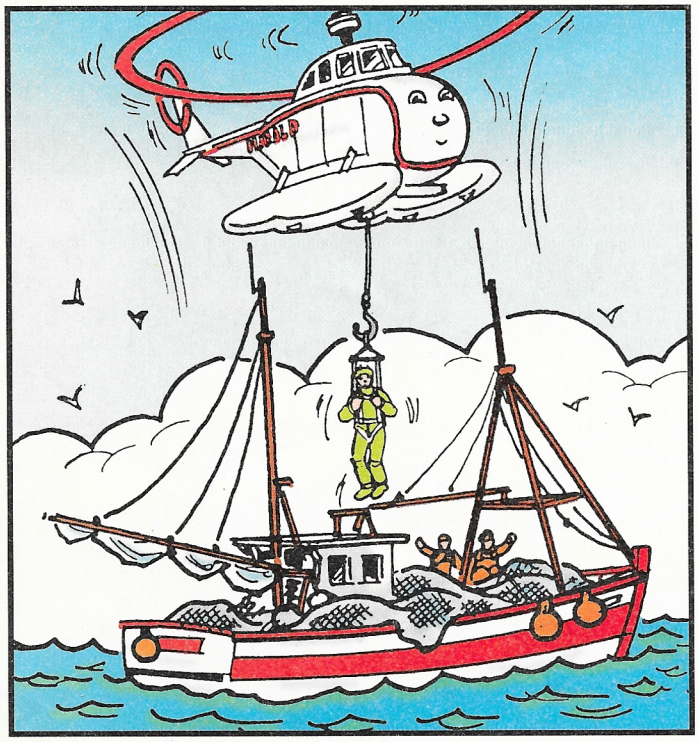
6. The more he thought how rude Diesel had been, the more he fumed. Later, he told the other engines. "Diesel should be taught a lesson," they agreed.



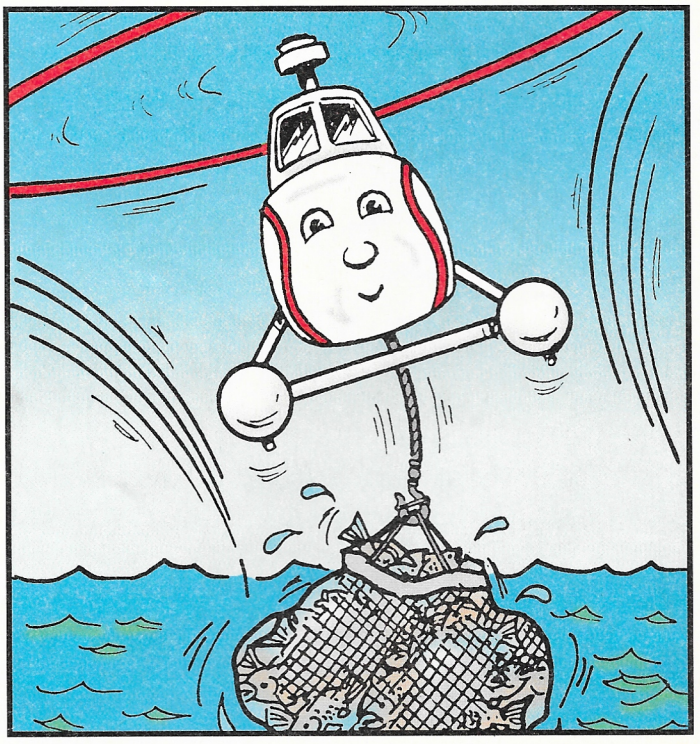
7. A few days later, Thomas was back on the fish market run. Sure enough Diesel was waiting in the harbour yard to tease him again. "Hello, fishface!" sneered Diesel.



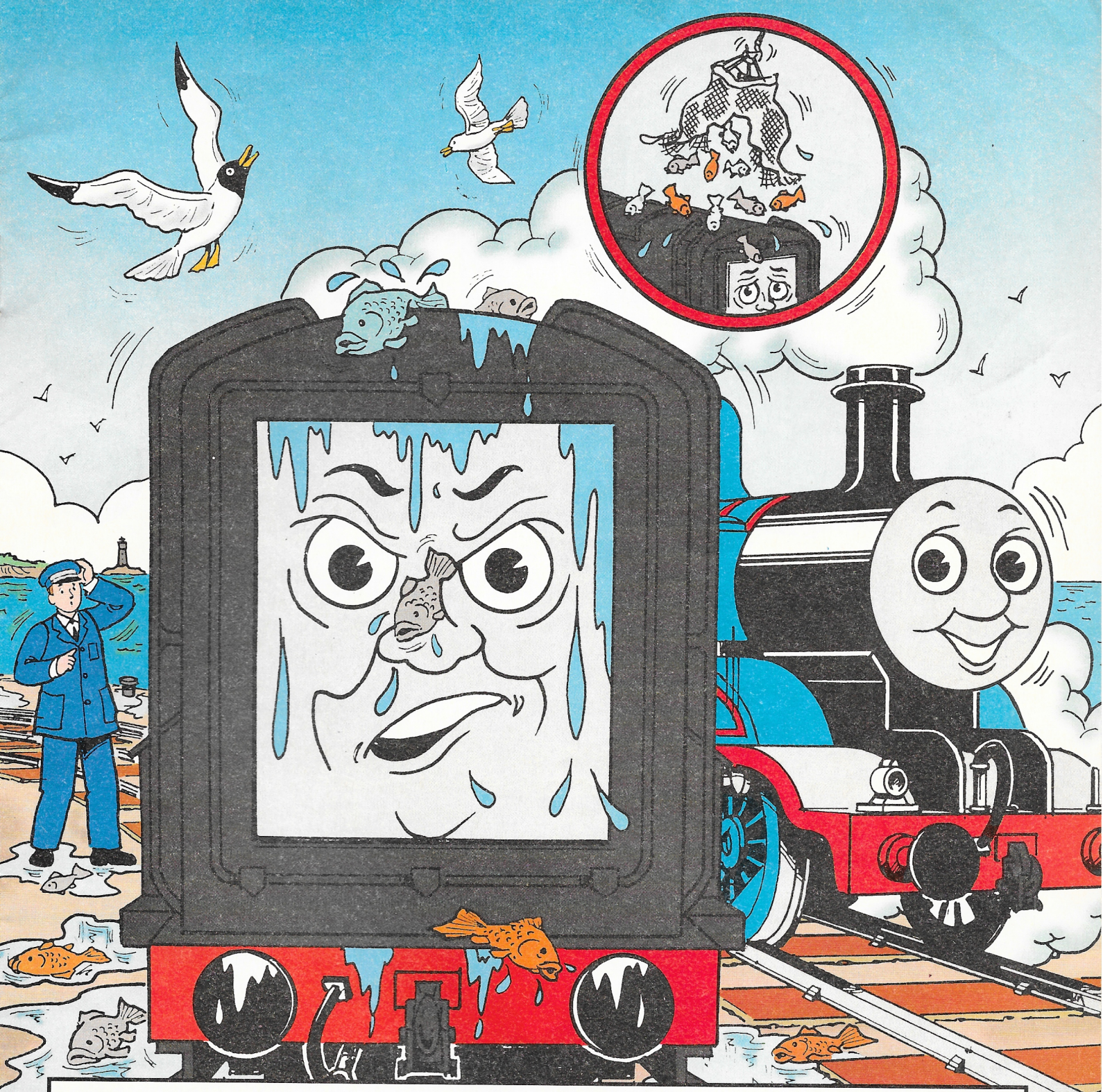
8. "That does it!" said Thomas. To make matters worse, Thomas had to stay longer than usual. One of the fishing boats had broken down offshore and needed some help.



9. The boat's skipper had radioed for Harold the Helicopter. He quickly flew out with a man who could mend the ship's motor. But Harold had another important job.

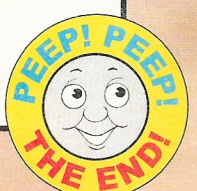


10. "We must get the boat's catch of fresh fish to market on time," said his pilot. Harold lifted the fish net hooked beneath him and flew towards the shore again.

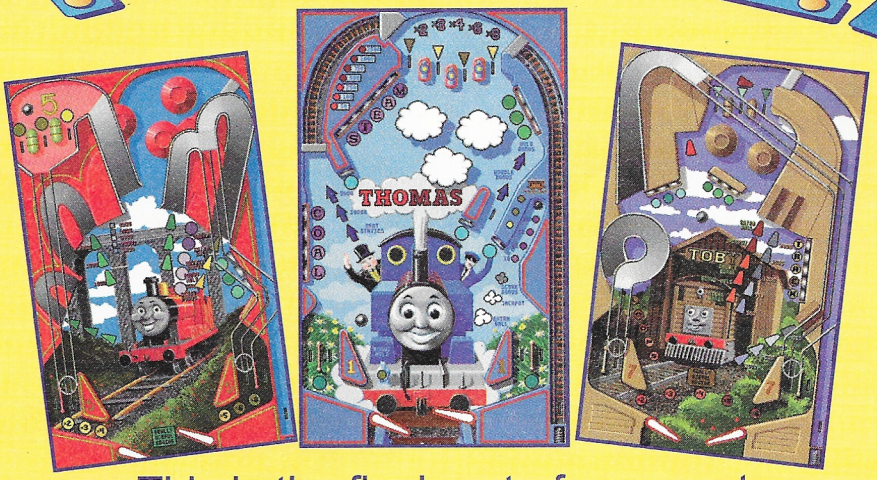


11. Thomas and Diesel saw everything. "See! Even Harold carries fish!" said Thomas. "At least his whirly blades will blow away the smell!" hissed Diesel. Harold had to fly over the harbour yard. "Pah! Keep away from me!" growled Diesel. But Harold's fish load was heavy. Suddenly, the net tore and lots of fish fell out all over Diesel.

12. "Sorry!" called Harold, who landed nearby. Men quickly cleared up the mess. "I'll hose you down as soon as you have finished work, Diesel!" said his driver. "The sooner the better!" fumed Diesel. Thomas wrinkled his nose. "Hey! What's that funny smell, Diesel?" he teased. "There's something very fishy about you too, today!"



# Let's play PINBALL!




ALTERNATIVE SOFTWARE

This is the final part of our great competition where you could win one of these fantastic pinball games. If you have collected all of your tokens and completed your puzzle, you are ready to enter our great competition!

Put your tokens and puzzle in an envelope, along with your name, age and address and send it to: **Thomas/Pinball competition, Thomas the Tank Engine Magazine, Marvel Comics Limited, 13-15 Arundel Street, London, WC2R 3DX. Entries to be received by 10th September 1995. GOOD LUCK!!**

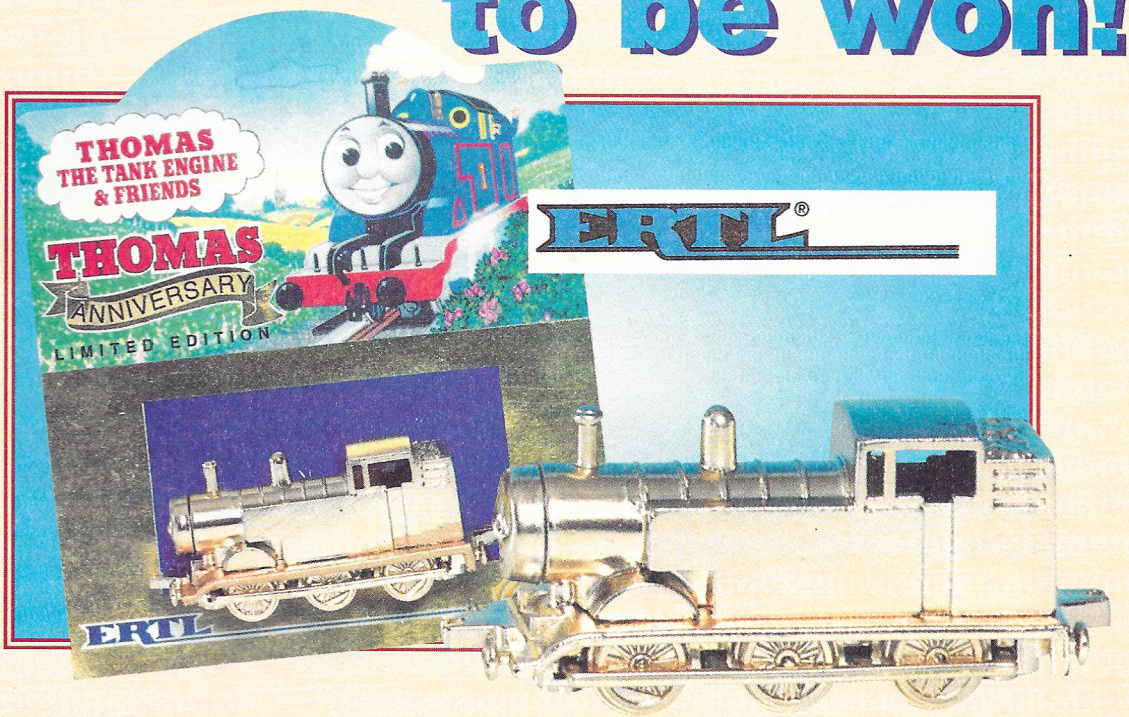
This competition is open to all readers other than employees of Marvel Comics Limited., and Alternative Software Limited. All prizes will be distributed via the manufacturer. We cannot accept any responsibility for prizes lost or damaged in the post. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered into.


H E A R T

**Looking for Thomas merchandise? Contact Heart Fashions and Designs for a FREE catalogue full of Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends goodies, plus lots more!**

**For more information contact: Heart Fashions and Designs, 37a High Street, Walsall Wood, West Midlands, WS9 9LR. Tel: 01543 377182**

# Limited edition GOLDEN THOMAS MODELS to be won!




Exciting news for all Thomas fans! We have teamed up with ERTL Europe Limited to bring you an exclusive competition, only open to Thomas the Tank Engine readers! We are offering you the chance to win one of **12 Limited Edition Golden Thomas models!** Only a limited amount of these Golden Engines have been made and Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends are proud to offer our readers the chance to win one of these very special collectors' models!

If you would like the chance to win, then it couldn't be easier! All you have to do is think of and draw a new engine which you think the Fat Controller might like to have on his railway. The 12 best drawings will each receive a fabulous model. You may even see your picture printed in Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends magazine!

Send your new engine character drawings to the following address, along with your name, age and address. Good luck!

**Thomas/Golden Model Competition, Marvel Comics Limited, 13-15 Arundel Street, London, WC2R 3DX.**

**All entries to be received by 15th September 1995.**

This competition is open to all readers other than employees of Marvel Comics Limited, and ERTL Europe Limited. All prizes will be distributed via the manufacturer. We cannot accept any responsibility for prizes lost or damaged in the post. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered into.

# YOUR LETTERS

## STAR LETTER!

The sender of any letter that is printed as our STAR LETTER will win one of these Thomas push and pull motorised engines!

### BOCO FACTS

Dear Fat Controller,
One of my favourite engines is BoCo. Please could you tell me more about him?
**Love from Peter Jackson.**
***BoCo works on the Brendam branch line. However, when BoCo first arrived on the Island of Sodor he was on loan and was only used for a trial period. He proved to be very useful and I decided to purchase the young engine!***

### SCOTTISH ENGINES!

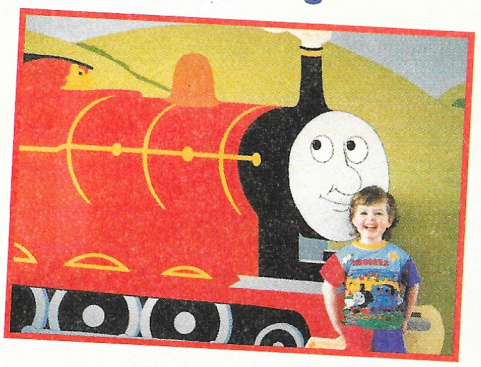
Dear Fat Controller,
Can you please tell me if Donald the Scottish engine ever gets into trouble?
**Love from Asley Gale, aged 2.**
***The Scottish twins are probably two of my most mature and trusty engines! If there is ever a problem, I can always count on Donald or Douglas to help out! You can find out more in one of this issue's stories!***

### ROLL OVER GEORGE!

Dear Fat Controller,
Please can you tell me more about George the Steamroller?
**Love from George Armour, aged 3.**
***George the Steamroller plays an important part in making the roads on the Island of Sodor. Although George isn't the happiest of engines and he is always grumbling about the rest of the railway's engines!***

### Photo of the fortnight!

**Dear Fat Controller,**
**This is a picture of me in my bedroom. My dad painted the mural of James for me. I hope you like it!**



**Love from Alexander Cooke, aged 3.**

## BIRTHDAYS

*Special wishes go to....*

**Luke Campbell, Ross Stoddart, Bernie Jaye, Mark Owen, Justin Ashton and Philip Longman.**

# Drawing Board!

**Thank you for sending your smashing drawings and pictures to the Fat Controller's Drawing Board**

**Thomas is busy pulling his faithful carriages in this great picture from Shawn Brown, aged 4!**

**Trevor's working busily in the vicarage orchard! Thanks to James Kennedy, aged 4.**

**Joseph Harlow, aged 5, has drawn a brilliant picture of Skarloey! Well done!**

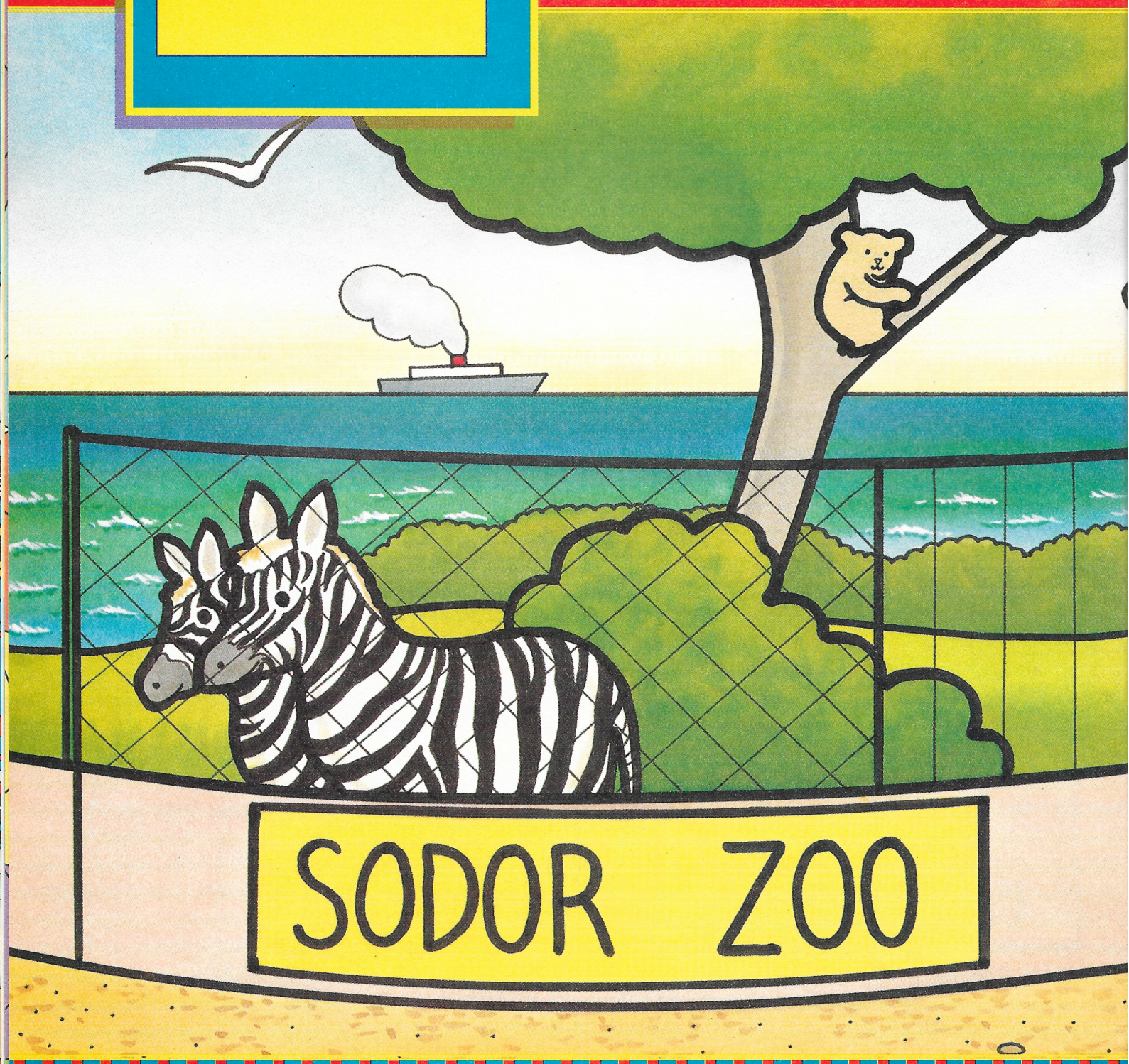
**Here's a great picture of Daisy, as drawn by David Ballard, aged 5.**

**If you would like to have your drawing or painting displayed on the page, then please send your entries to: The Fat Controller's Drawing Board, Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends, Marvel Comics Ltd., 13-15 Arundel St., London, WC2R 3DX.**

**Anyone who has a drawing printed on this page will win a special Thomas Changing Picture Book**

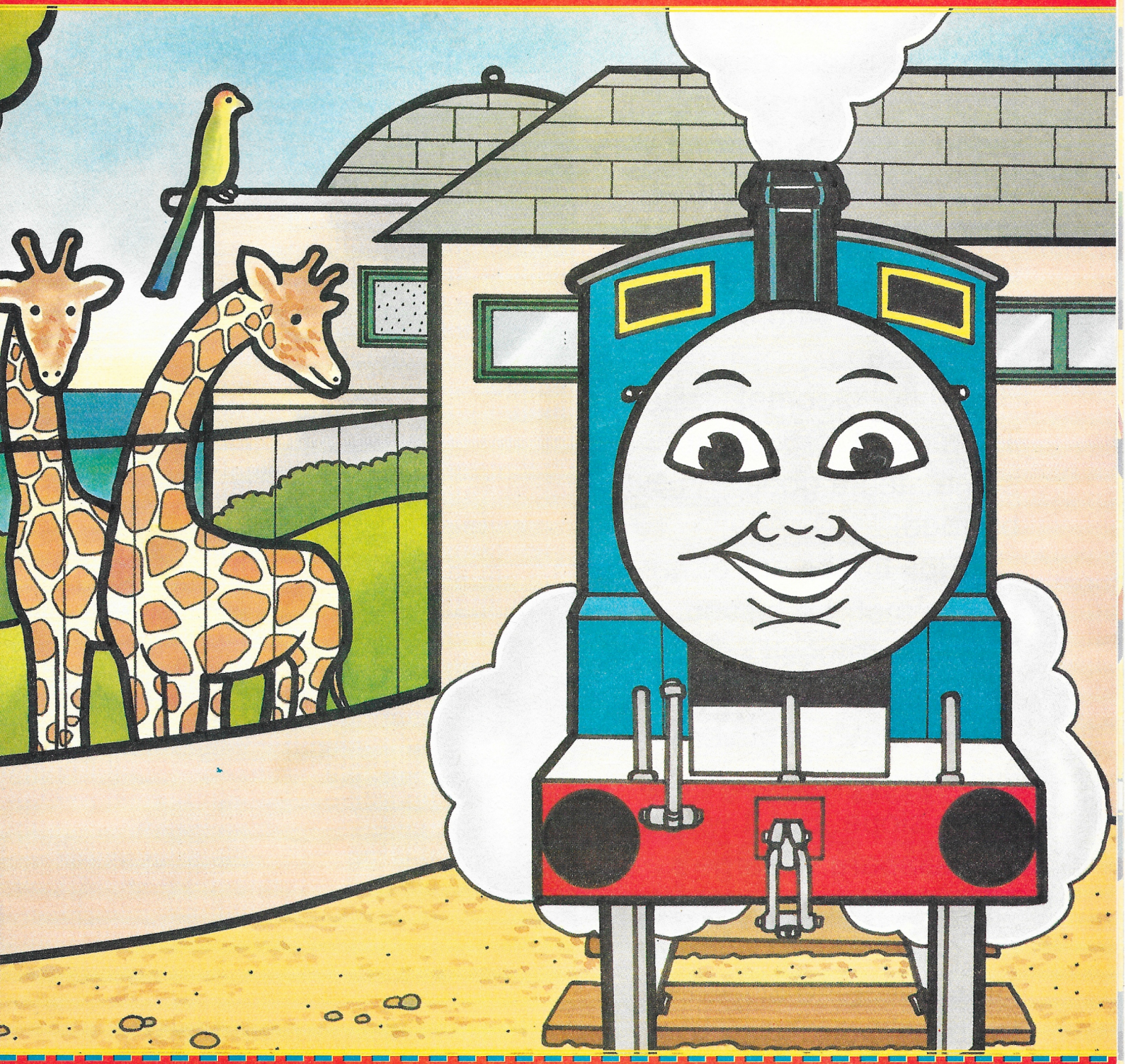
CUT OUT AND KEEP

# Z is fo




- Which engine can you see in this picture?
- Where is he waiting?
- What animal can you see beginning with the letter Z?
- How ma
- What ki the tree
- What is

r_____ _____ _____



ny giraffes can you see?

d of animal can you spot in

loating on the sea?

This centre spread should be cut out as it forms part of a continuous scene for your child's bedroom, play group or classroom.

# George gets stuck!

Thomas was waiting at a signal on his branch line, one morning, when a steamroller came rumbling along a nearby road. It was flattening a new surface, which workmen were busy laying. Thomas knew the steamroller, who did not like railways.

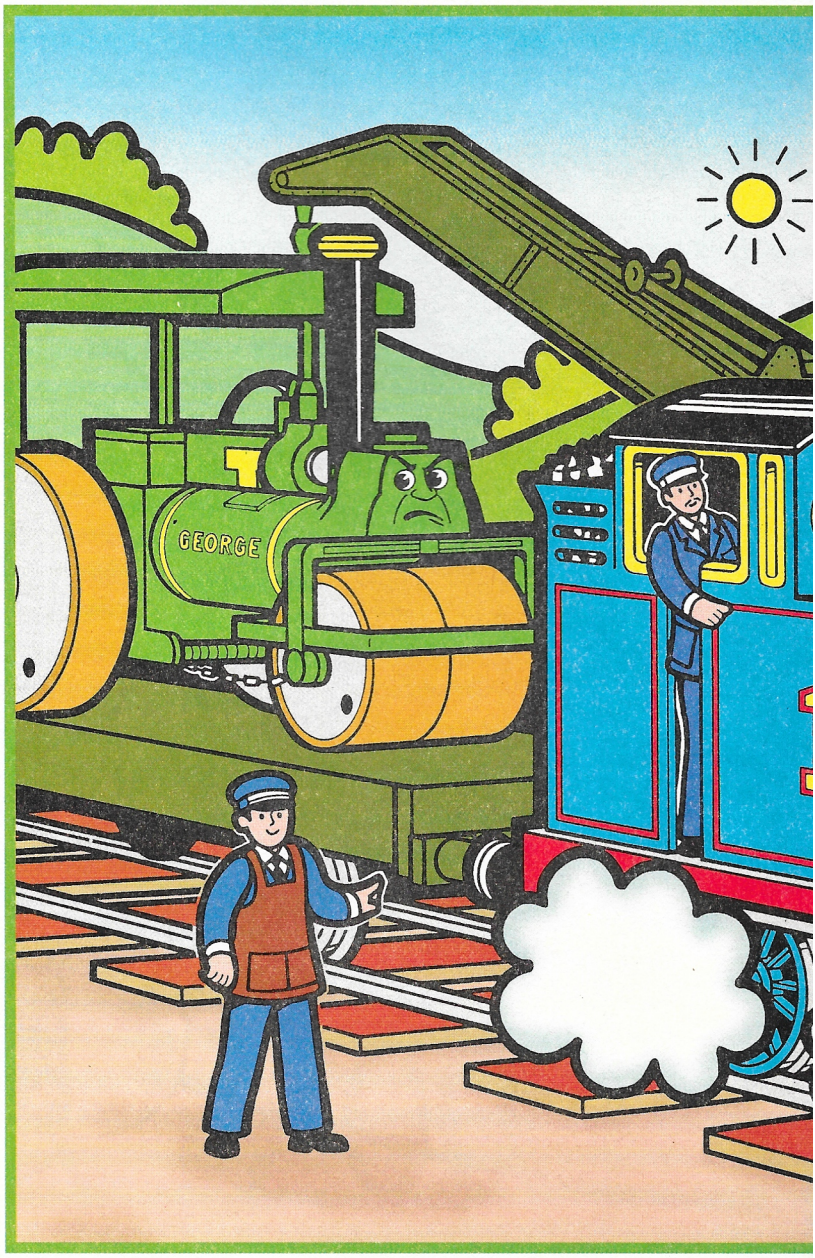
"Hello, George!" called Thomas. "I forgot that some steam goes by road!"

"Rail tracks are of no use to me!" he hissed. "Roads are best!"

George had to turn round. The road was not very wide so he rolled on to a grass slope. But it was wet and slippery. George's smooth front wheel could not grip and he began to slide down the slope towards the railway line.

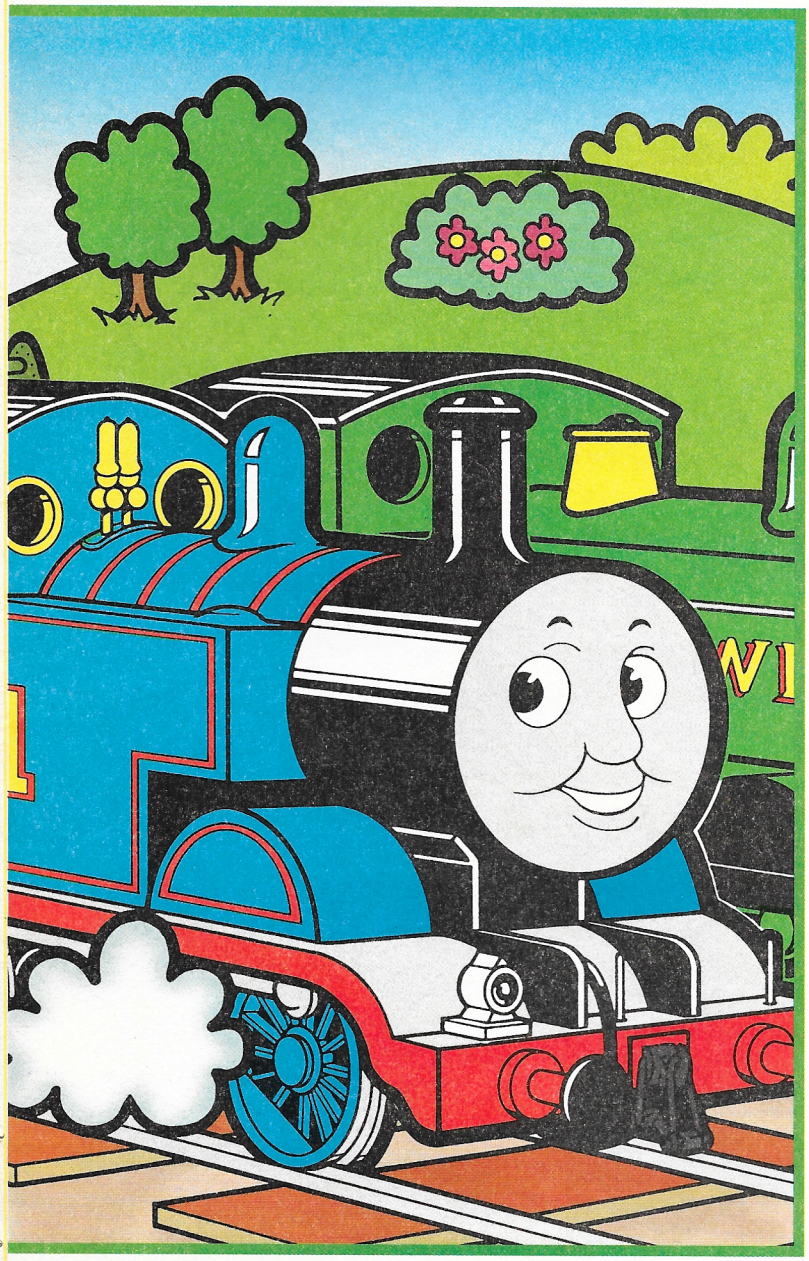
"Help!" shouted George. He crashed through a fence and came to a halt with his huge front wheel on the track.

"I'll never get back up there!" George grumbled. "I'm stuck!"




"So am I!" said Thomas. "You're blocking my line!"

Terence the Tractor was sent for. His caterpillar treads could grip easily on the slope. But George was too heavy to pull clear. Thomas backed up to a station and was coupled to a flat truck. Meanwhile the



station-master rang for a crane. Duck quickly arrived with it. The large crane slowly lifted George into the air. Then he was lowered on to Thomas's flat truck.

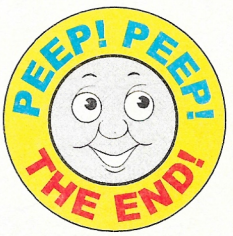
"Where are you taking me?" shouted George.

"To a level crossing," teased Thomas. "Then we'll lift you down safely."

"I don't like going by rail!" snorted George.

"You must admit railways do have their uses, sometimes!" teased Thomas.

"Pah! I suppose so!" replied George, sulkily.



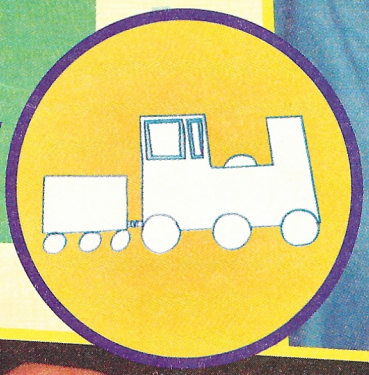

**Turn the page and have a ball! There's an engine tidier to hang on your wall!**

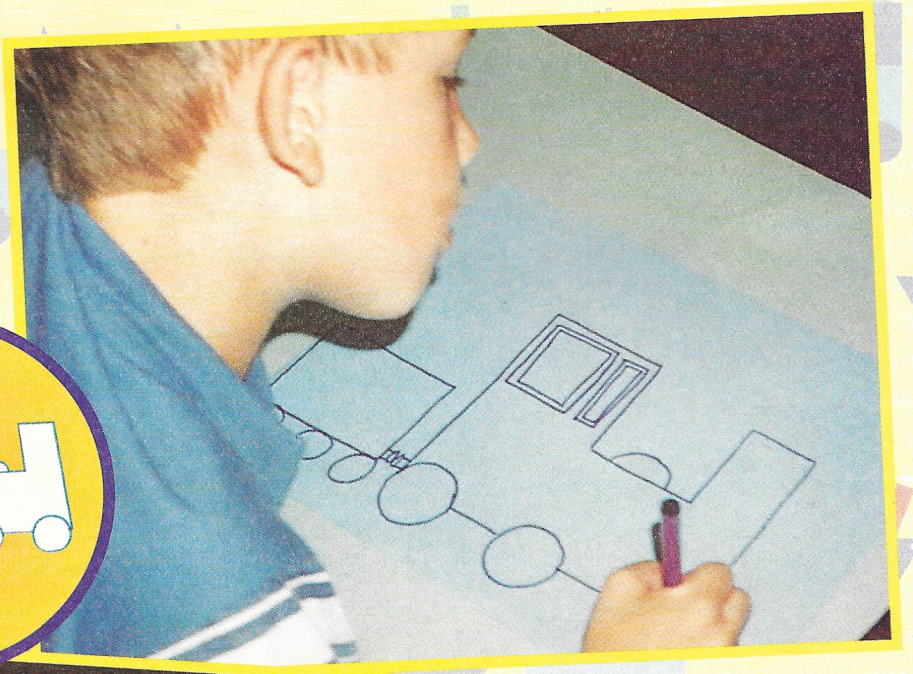
# Make an engine wa

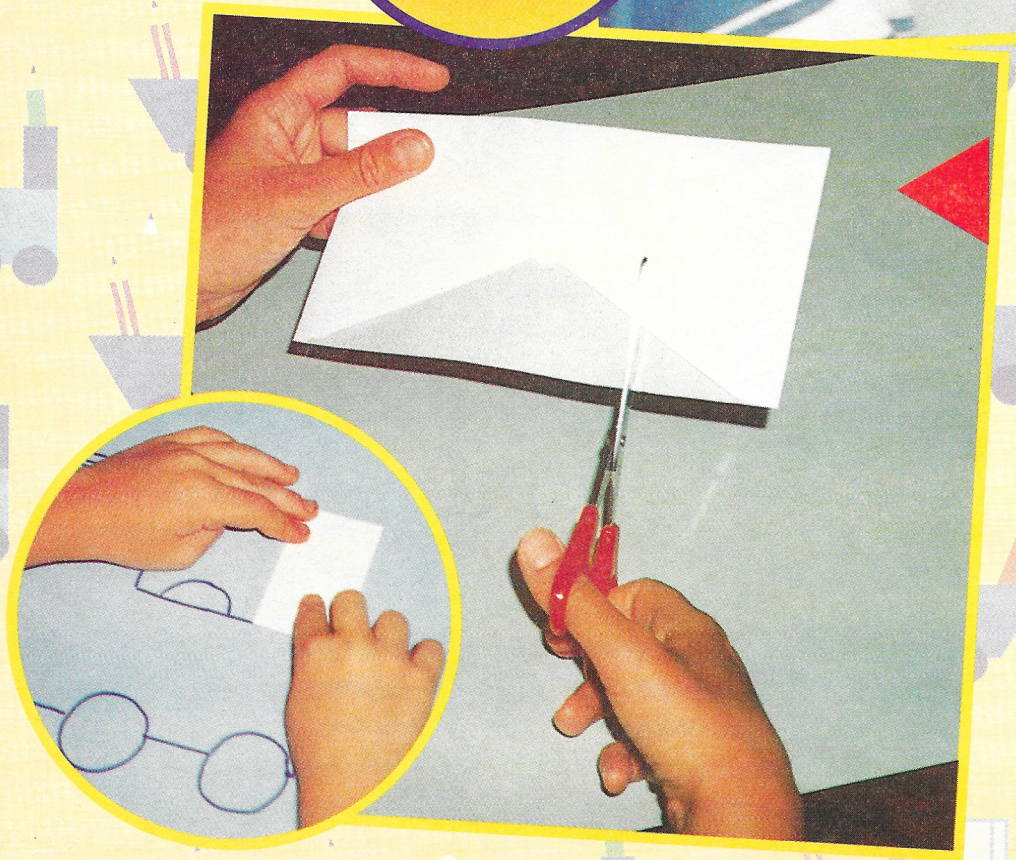
**You will need:**
a large piece of strong card, four or five envelopes, thin string, sticky tape, safe glue, scissors.

Are you always losing your pens and pencils? Well, here's a really easy and fun way to keep your room tidy. You'll never lose your pens again!

**1.** Using a pencil, draw a sideways picture of Thomas pulling some trucks, like we have shown in our picture.

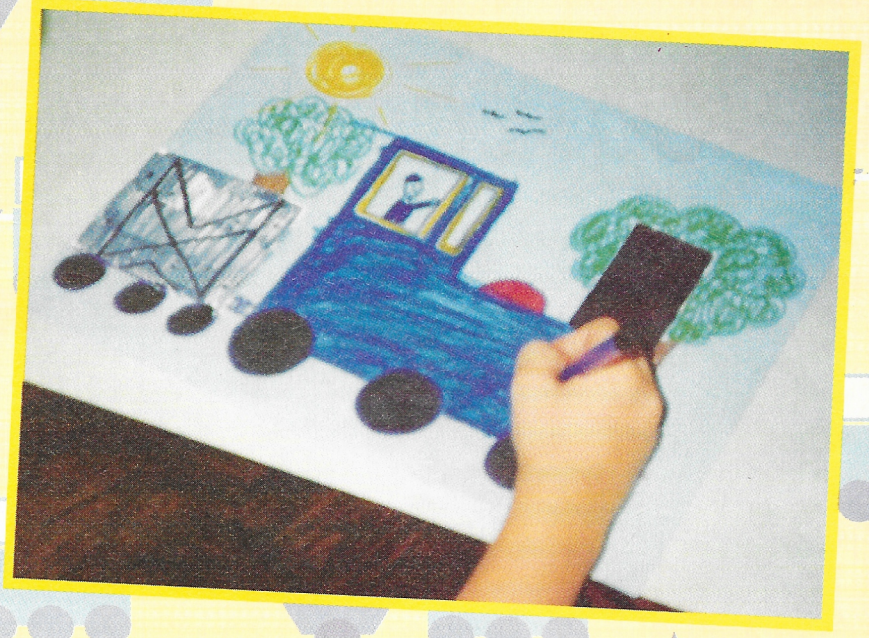






**2.** With the help of a grown-up, cut the flaps from the envelopes making little pockets. We are going to use these pockets as a funnel for Thomas and for his trucks. Look at the picture to help you.

# ll tidier !

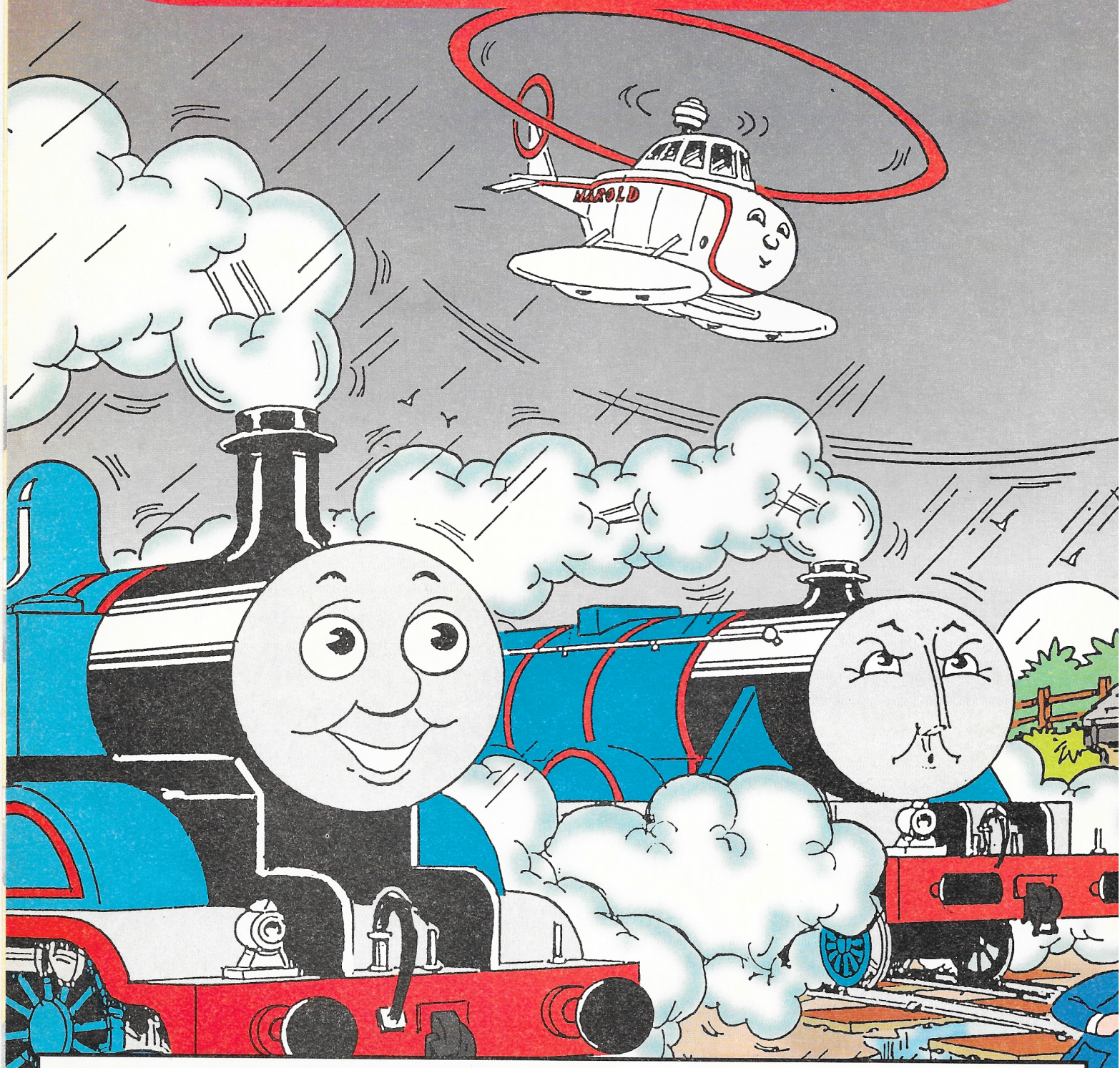


3. Now, using coloured paint or pens, colour in Thomas and the background.

4. With the help of a grown-up, make two small holes in the top edge of the card and thread a piece of string through them.

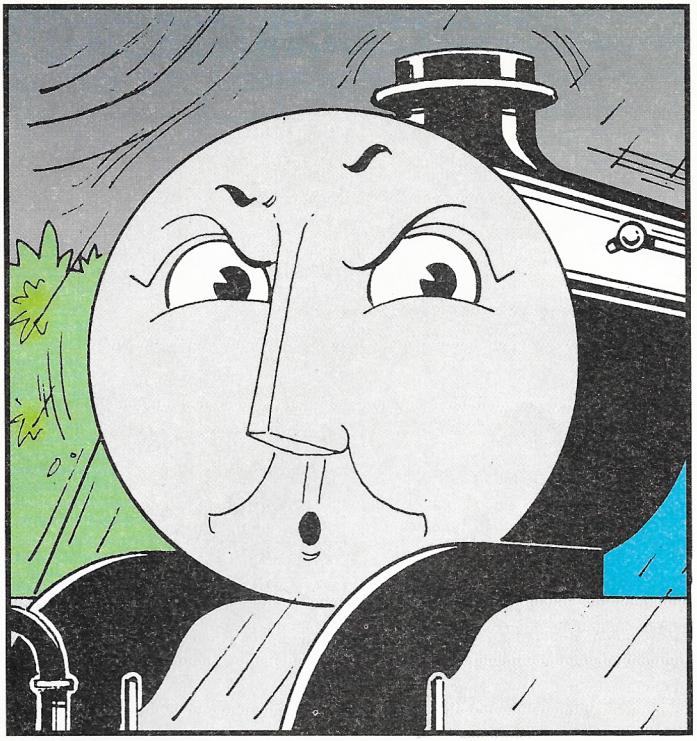
5. Hang your tidier up on your wall! You can use your Engine Tidier above a desk to hold pens, pencils, paper-clips, or use it in the bedroom to hold combs and hair slides!

# Weather worries!

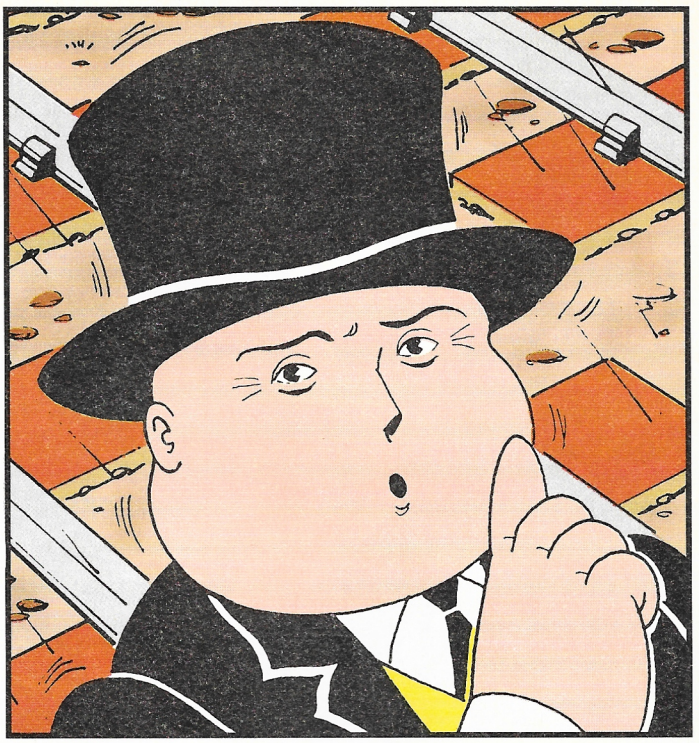



1. It had been raining on the Island of Sodor for days and days! This made life for the Fat Controller and his engines very difficult indeed!

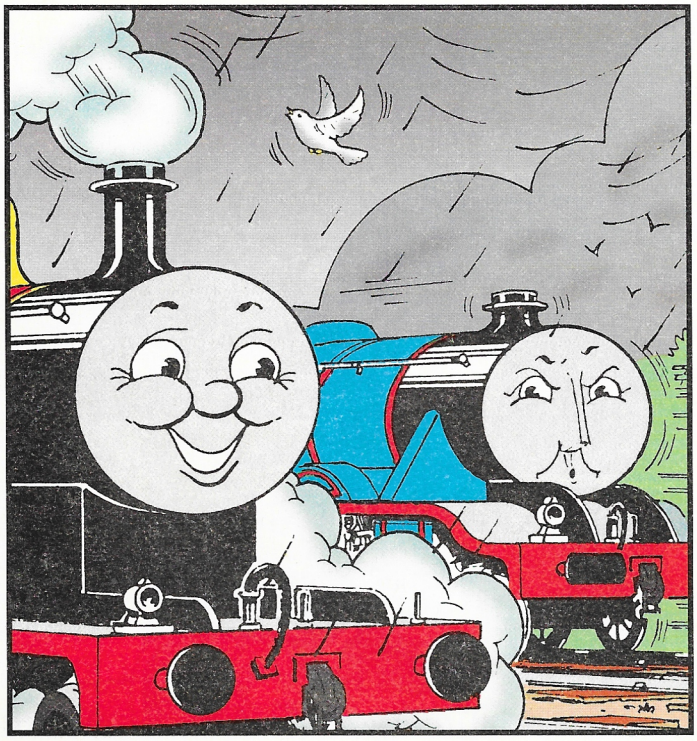
2. Schedules were running late and the engines were only allowed to travel at a certain speed limit for safety. Gordon the Express Engine was not very happy about this.



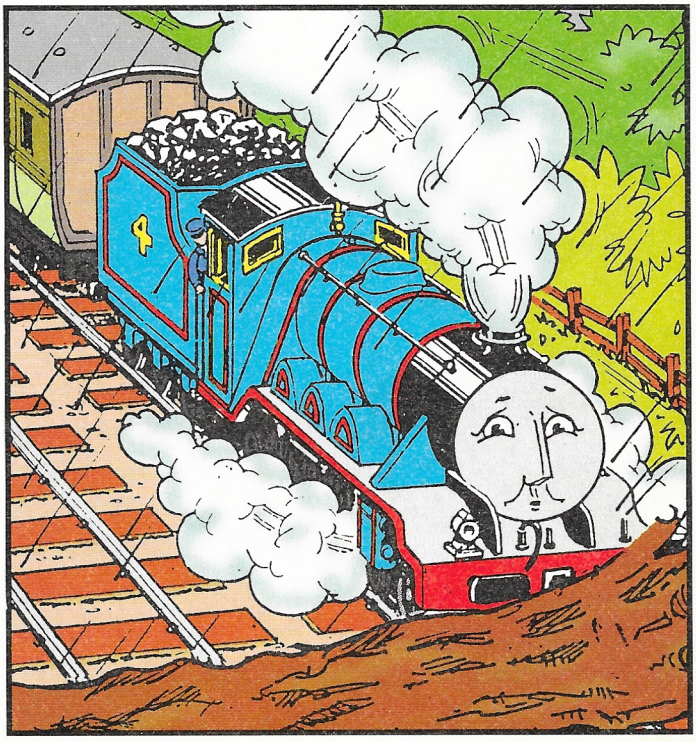
3. "If people want to get somewhere quickly, they like to ride on the Express!" he exclaimed. "I'm travelling at the speed of a regular engine!"



4. The Fat Controller grew very cross with his Express engine. "There is a reason for this speed limit, Gordon, and that reason is very important... SAFETY!"

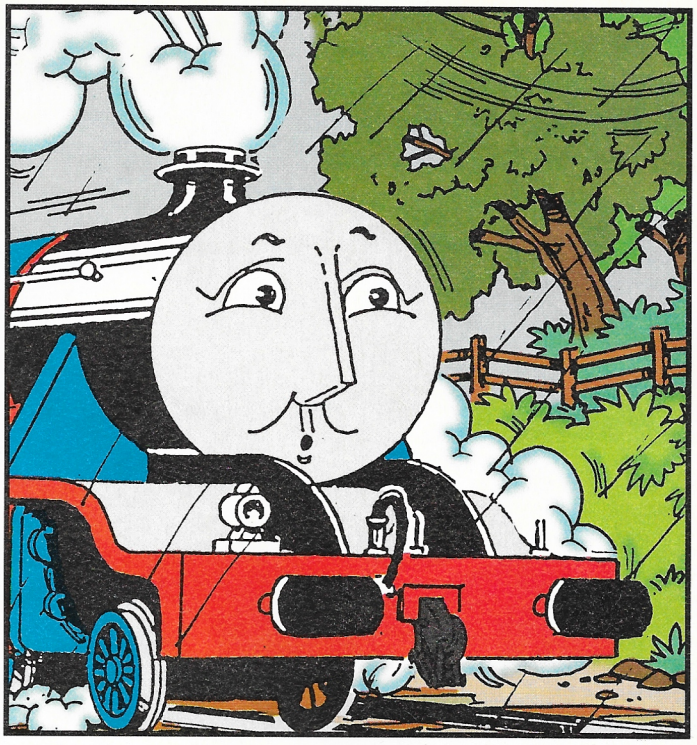


5. Gordon looked very embarrassed as the other engines giggled. "Must be off! I can't let my passengers down," snorted Gordon as he left the station.

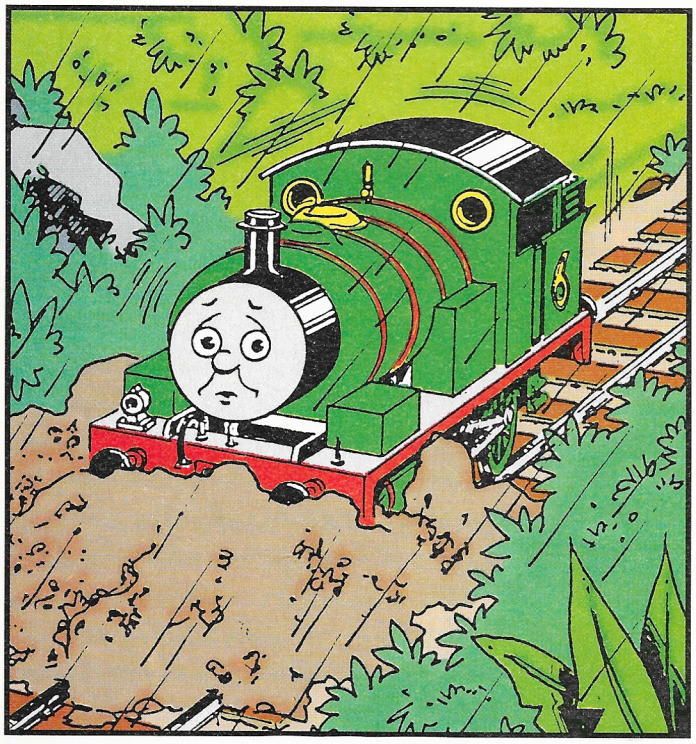


6. The weather was getting worse and the wind was getting stronger. Suddenly, a tree from the side of the track fell across the line. Gordon braked sharply!

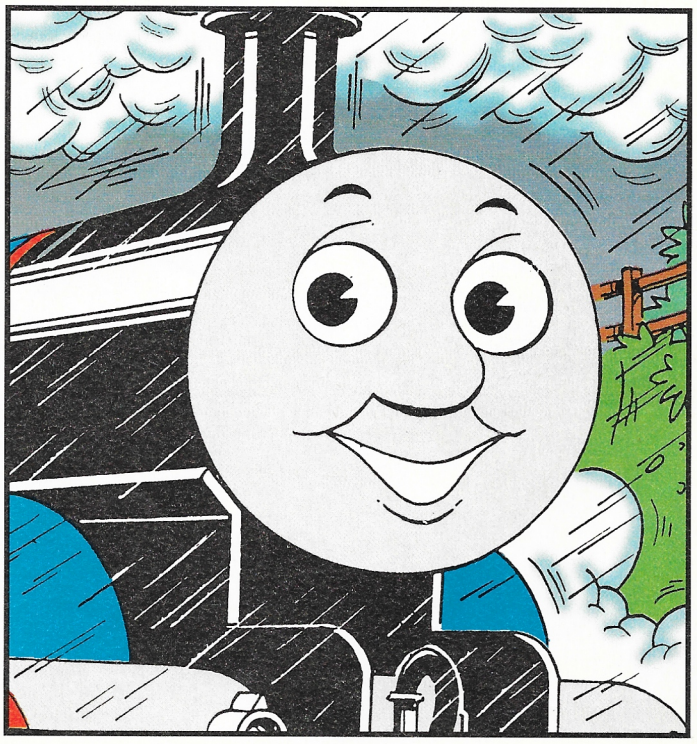
7. "That was lucky!" said his driver. "If we had been travelling any faster, that tree would have fallen on top of us!" Gordon looked shocked and shaken.



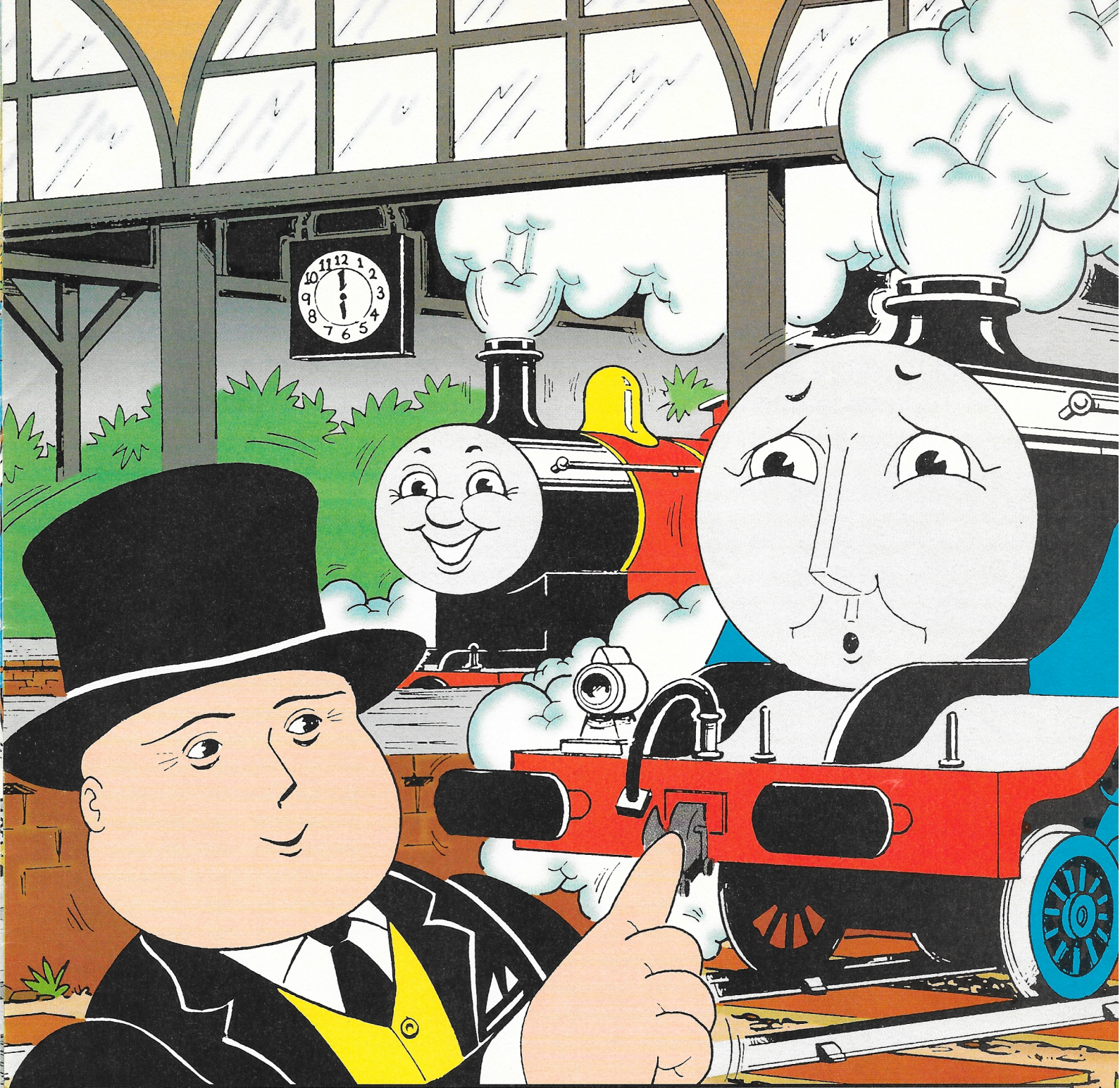
8. "We'll have to wait here until Harold arrives to lift the tree," said his driver, as he backed Gordon away to safety. "But it's too windy for him to fly!" cried Gordon.



9. There was nothing they could do except wait. Gordon was not the only engine who had to wait! Percy had crashed into a landslide and was stuck!

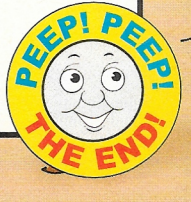


10. Luckily, Percy didn't have to wait long. Thomas pulled him out of the mud, but the Fat Controller was becoming very worried about Gordon and his passengers.



11. "As soon as the wind drops, Harold is to fly and clear the track!" ordered the Fat Controller. But the wind didn't drop and the weather forecast showed no change. Back in the engine shed, Thomas was speaking to the other engines. "Gordon's passengers must be fed up. They should call him the slow coach instead of the Express!"

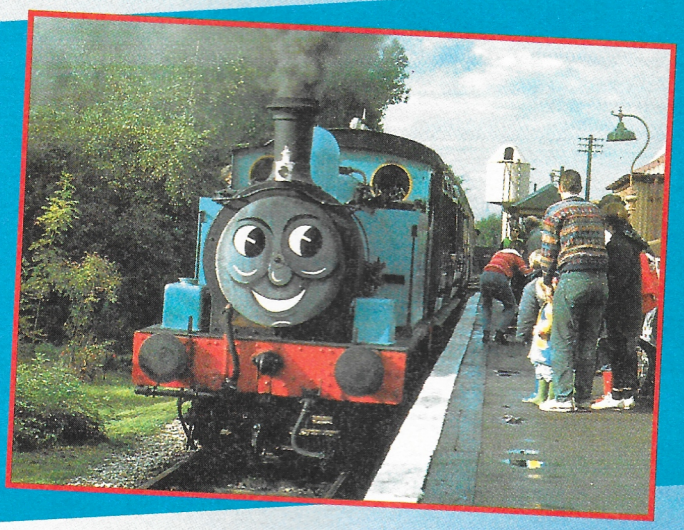
12. It grew very quiet. "Listen," whispered Thomas. "The wind has stopped." A message was sent to Harold, to fly and rescue Gordon. It wasn't long before the tree was removed, the passengers were at the station and Gordon was back in the engine shed. "I guess you travelled like the wind to get home!" chuckled James. Gordon said nothing.



# Visit a railway!

If you would like a really fun day out, then there is nothing better than going to visit a railway museum. You can usually have a ride on an old steam engine, and if you're very lucky, Thomas or one of his friends, too! Here are some details of just a couple of the many exciting railways you may like to visit. Plus, we've also shown dates when Thomas is due to make an appearance. So cut out the special voucher below and you can visit Didcot railway and Thomas for FREE!

For a great day out, why not visit the Bluebell Railway? Although Thomas and his friends are not visiting, it is a very special year for the Bluebell Railway. The line has now been in operation for 35 years! If you buy a full line return ticket you can ride on the line all day and as many times as you like!



But if you visit Didcot Railway on the 9th & 10th of September, you will be able to visit Thomas and have a ride on him. As well as saying hello to Thomas, you can also see the magnificent King Edward Engine as he puffs along the branch line.

DIDCOT RAILWAY CENTRE
DIDCOT OXFORDSHIRE OX11 7NJ
Registered Charity No. 272616 Telephone: Didcot (01235) 817200

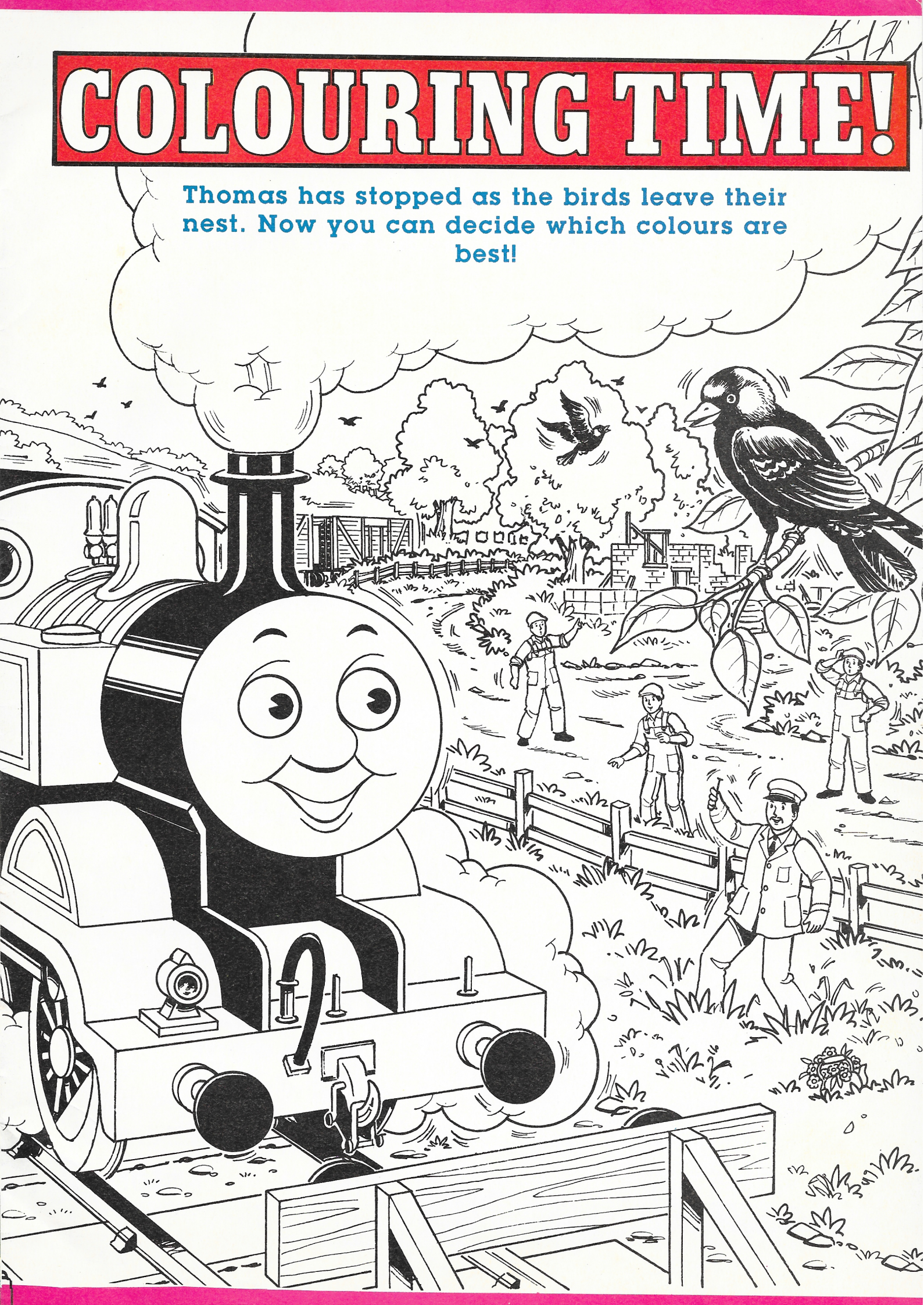
**ONE CHILD FREE ADMISSION**

*When accompanied by an adult paying the full price.*

This voucher entitles one child to visit the **Didcot Railway** for **FREE** if accompanied by a paying adult. For more information about the **Didcot Railway telephone: 01235 817200.**

# COLOURING TIME!

**Thomas has stopped as the birds leave their nest. Now you can decide which colours are best!**



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# WIN

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